

Asia Minor. Instances of his keen sense of justice as a ruler, as well as of his generosity to his enemies are recorded.

March 7, 1810, died Lord Collingwood. Born at Newcastle on Tyne in 1750, he entered the navy as a midshipman at the age of eleven and died at sea in the "Ville de Paris" near Port Mahon. Collingwood was greatly beloved by Nelson, was second in command at Trafalgar, and his ship, the "Royal Sovereign" was first to break the enemy's line. He finished the battle after Nelson's glorious end, continuing in command of the fleet. He was at this time raised to the peerage. Collingwood was a scientific seaman and naval tactician. His official despatches are admirable, even in point of style, which is wonderful, considering that, nearly all his days, he had led a busy life at sea. His letters to his wife and daughters are full of good sense and feeling.

March 9, 1762, born William Cobbett political writer, and in his day deemed a good typical "John Bull." Hogarth, in his time, meriting a like designation. Cobbett's English grammar has been a great aid to many self-taught grammarians.

On March 11th, 1702, the first daily paper, the *Daily Courant*, was issued at Fleet Bridge, London. It was a single page of two columns, giving only foreign news without comment, the editor "supposing other people to have sense enough to make reflections for themselves." How the power of the press has grown since, in every land! and mostly for good ends; although contemptible, unvarnished sheets, sedulously catering to the animal propensities in human nature, still manage to exist, earning unenviable notoriety. The *London Times*, is not now the "Thunderer" of yore. It has been compelled to reduce the price from three pence to one penny per copy, and is said to be in no great demand at that. This comes of opposing the foreign policy of the "Grand Old Man." How are the mighty fallen!

Died March 14, 1751, Marshall Wade, a good soldier but chiefly remembered for his construction of roads in the Highlands of Scotland in the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Contrasting them with the devious tracks of freebooters of an earlier time an Irish ensign, quartered at Fort William is said to have sung:

"Had you seen these roads before they were made,

You'd have lifted up your hands, and blessed General Wade."

Wade did much while in the Highlands to do away with the Jacobite predilections of the clans.

The Book of Days, on the authority of Walpole, gives the following anecdote: General Wade was at a low gaming house, and had a very fine snuff-box, which on a sudden he missed.

Everybody denied having taken it, and he insisted on searching the company. He did; there remained only one man who stood behind him, and refused to be searched unless the general would go into another room alone with him. Then the man told him that he was born a gentleman, was reduced, and lived by what little bets he could pick up there, and by fragments which the waiters sometimes gave him. "At this moment I have half a fowl in my pocket. I was afraid of being exposed. Here it is! Now, sir, you may search me." Wade was so affected, that he gave the man a hundred pounds; and immediately the genius of generosity whose province is almost a sinecure, was very glad of the opportunity of making him find his own snuff-box, or another very much like it, in his own pocket again."

APRIL.

1779. April 1. Born, appropriately on this day of this month, Robert Surtees, historical antiquary, and author of the history and antiquities of the County Palatine of Durham. Educated at Oxford, possessed of a fair estate, and of a kind, hospitable turn of mind, Mr. Surtees was generally well-liked. Nevertheless, he imposed, successively, on Sir Walter Scott, three pieces of pretended ancient border ballads of his own composition, and gave the names of the fictitious old men or women, who, he stated, had furnished him with the reliques. Mr. Surtees is supposed to have been faithful in his own historical narrations; yet he romanced with Scott, whose own romancing in his—in their way—matchless novels still keeps his memory bright.

1694. April 1, died Rev. Richard Napier, physician and astrologer, who is said to have foretold his own death to the day and hour. Napier was a South Briton. Charles I., and Cromwell are said both to have been in the habit of consulting astrologers. Elias Ashmole had many volumes of Napier's manuscripts bound, and placed in the Ashmolean Library of Oxford.

1639. April 1. Mr. Garrard, on this date, writing from London to Wentworth, Earl of Strafford then in Ireland, mentions the introduction of hackney coaches driven by men in livery. Serious complaints were made regarding the noise of coaches. The "water poet" Taylor, as having been bound "prentice to a waterman," he called himself puts in the mouth of a thief a rhymic lament, beginning with the following quatrain:—

Carrochers, coaches, jakes, and Flemish mares,
Do not rob us of our shares, our wares, our farce:
Against the ground, we stand and knock our heels,
Whilst all our profit runs away on wheels.

1661. April 2. Pepys mentions in his diary having seen the game of Pelencle (French *Pak*